

**ANALYSIS OF FLOUTING MAXIMS RELATED TO HUMOR IN THE
AMERICAN SITCOM “FRIENDS” SEASON 1
(A Pragmatics Approach)**



THESIS

**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of Requirement
for the Sarjana Sastra Degree at English Department
Faculty of Cultural Sciences
Sebelas Maret University**

By:

ARIF NURRAHMAN

C1312002

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES
SEBELAS MARET UNIVERSITY
SURAKARTA**

2017

**ANALYSIS OF FLOUTING MAXIMS RELATED TO HUMOR IN THE
AMERICAN SITCOM "FRIENDS" SEASON 1**

(A Pragmatics Approach)

By:

ARIF NURRAHMAN

C1312002

Approved to be examined before the Board of Examiners of English Department

Faculty of Cultural Sciences

Sebelas Maret University

Thesis Supervisor



Drs. Sugiyarto Budi Waskito, M.Pd.

NIP. 19521108 198303 1 001

Head of English Department

Faculty of Cultural Sciences Sebelas Maret University



Drs. Agus Hari Wibowo, M.A., Ph.D.

NIP. 19670830 199302 1 001

**ANALYSIS OF FLOUTING MAXIMS RELATED TO HUMOR IN THE
AMERICAN SITCOM "FRIENDS" SEASON 1**

(A Pragmatics Approach)

By:

ARIF NURRAHMAN

C1312002

Accepted and Approved by the Board of Examiners of English Department

Faculty of Cultural Sciences

Sebelas Maret University

Position	Name	Signature
Chairperson	Drs. Agus Hari Wibowo, M.A., Ph.D. NIP. 19670830 199302 1 001	(.....)
Secretary	Nur Saptaningsih, S.Hum., M.Hum. NIK. 19850203 2016 1 001	(.....)
First Examiner	Drs. Sugiyarto Budi Waskito, M.Pd. NIP. 19521108 198303 1 001	(.....)
Second Examiner	Dr. Sri Marmanto, M.Hum. NIP. 19500901 198601 1 001	(.....)

The Dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences

Sebelas Maret University



Prof. Drs. Rivadi Santosa, M.Ed., Ph.D.

NIP. 19600328 198601 1 001

PRONOUNCEMENT

Name : Arif Nurrahman

NIM : C1312002

Stated truthfully that the thesis entitled **ANALYSIS OF FLOUTING MAXIMS RELATED TO HUMOR IN THE AMERICAN SITCOM “FRIENDS” SEASON 1 (A Pragmatics Approach)** is not plagiarism of other's piece of work. The things related to other people's work are written in quotation and included within the bibliography.

If this pronouncement is proved incorrect in the future, I am ready to take the responsibility including the withdrawal of my academic title.

Surakarta, 2017

The Researcher

Arif Nurrahman

MOTTO

“LIFE IS A VERB”

(BUCKMINSTER FULLER)

“VERILY, ALONG WITH EVERY HARDSHIP IS RELIEF”

(THE HOLY QURAN 94:5)

**“I’D RATHER BE HATED FOR WHO I AM, THAN LOVED FOR
WHO I AM NOT”**

(KURT COBAIN)

“HATE IS MORE LASTING THAN DISLIKE”

(ADOLF HITLER)

DEDICATION

I wholeheartedly dedicate this thesis to:

♥ My dearest parent for their love and sacrifice ♥

♥ My beloved little brother and sister ♥

♥ Myself ♥

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillahirobbil'alamin...

First and foremost, all the praises just for ALLAH SWT for His blessing and His guidance so that I can finish this thesis entitled “Analysis of Flouting Maxims Related to Humor in the American Sitcom “Friends” Season 1 (A Pragmatics Approach)”. Further, I realize that this thesis would never be accomplished without the assistances from many people. Therefore, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for the following people who always support me in finishing this thesis.

1. Prof. Drs. Riyadi Santosa, M.Ed., Ph.D., the Dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Sebelas Maret University, for approving this thesis.
2. Drs. Agus Hari Wibowo, M.A., Ph.D., the Head of English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Sebelas Maret University, thank you for the support and the permission to conduct this research.
3. Drs. Sugiyarto Budi Waskito, M.Pd., my thesis supervisor and my academic supervisor, thank you for your guidance and patience in assisting this thesis from the beginning until the end.
4. All of the lecturers and staffs in English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Sebelas Maret University, thank you for the valuable knowledge and experiences that have been given to me during my study.
5. All of the administration officers and all of the staffs in Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Sebelas Maret University, thank you for the assistances.

6. My beloved parents, *Bapak* and *Ibu*, thank you for everything. I will make both of you proud!
7. My lovely little brother and sister, Andi and Annisa, you guys are my champs!
8. My big family, especially my grandpa and grandma, thank you for your blessing during my study.
9. My friends in “Kos Ian”, thank you for being my second family in Solo.
10. All of my friends in English Department, Faculty of Cultural Science, Sebelas Maret University. Keep in touch, guys!
11. Everyone whose names I cannot mention one by one. Thank you so much.

Finally, I realize that this thesis is far from being perfect. Therefore, I would gladly welcome any suggestions, comments, and criticisms to improve this thesis. Nevertheless, I also expected that this thesis will be useful for all people without exception.

Surakarta, 2017

The Researcher

Arif Nurrahman

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	i
APPROVAL OF THE THESIS SUPERVISOR	ii
APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS	iii
PRONOUNCEMENT	iv
MOTTO	v
DEDICATION	vi
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	ix
LIST OF FIGURES	xii
LIST OF TABLES	xiii
ABSTRACT	xiv

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

1.1. Research Background	1
1.2. Research Objectives	4
1.3. Research Questions	5
1.4. Research Significances	5
1.5. Scope of The Research	6
1.6. Thesis Organization	6

CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Definitions of Pragmatics	8
--------------------------------------	---

2.2. The Cooperative Principles	10
2.3. Non Observances of Cooperative Principles	14
2.4. Conversational Implicature	19
2.5. Context	22
2.6. Strategies to Flout A Maxim	23
2.7. Flouting Clash between Maxims and Strategies Overlap in Flouting Maxim	28
2.8. Theories of Humor	29
2.9. Synopsis of The Sitcom	33
2.10. Review of Related Studies	36
CHAPTER III: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	
3.1. Research Design	38
3.2. Research Location	40
3.3. Source of Data and Data	41
3.4. Sampling	42
3.5. Data Validation	43
3.6. Technique of Collecting Data	44
3.7. Data Coding	45
3.8. Technique of Analyzing Data	47
CHAPTER IV: DISCUSSION	
4.1. Introduction	48
4.2. Analysis	49
4.3. Discussion	106

CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1. Conclusion	110
5.2. Suggestion	114

BIBLIOGRAPHY

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1. The Integrating Humor Theories	32
--	----

LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1. The Percentage of Types of Flouting Maxims	49
Table 4.2. The Data Number of Flouting Maxims	99
Table 4.3. Strategies to Flout the Maxims	101
Table 4.4. The Relation between All of the Types of Flouting Maxims and the Strategies to Flout the Maxims with the Integrating Humor Theories	104

ABSTRACT

Arif Nurrahman. C1312002. Analysis of Flouting Maxims Related to Humor in the American Sitcom “Friends” Season 1 (A Pragmatics Approach). Thesis: English Department of Faculty of Cultural Sciences. Sebelas Maret University.

This research is conducted in order to find out the types of flouting maxims and the strategies of flouting maxims in the American Sitcom “Friends” Season 1 episode 1 and 2. It is also executed to explain the role of flouting maxims in creating verbal humors in the sitcom.

This research is a descriptive qualitative research. It deals with pragmatics approach especially flouting maxims as the object of the analysis. It employs purposive sampling technique to collect the data. The data in this research are taken from the dialogues containing flouting maxims and verbal humors which are uttered by the characters in the sitcom. The data are classified based on Grice’s Theory of Cooperative Principles and then they are identified by using Lyttle’s Integrating Humor Theories to explain the role of flouting maxims in creating verbal humors in the sitcom. There are 30 data which are analyzed in this research.

This research gains three findings. The first finding shows that there are four types of flouting maxims performed by the characters. They are 9 flouting maxims of Quantity (30%), 9 flouting maxims of Quality (30%), 9 flouting maxims of Relation (30%) and 3 flouting maxims of Manner (10%). Thus, it indicates that all of the types of flouting maxims are found in the sitcom although there is not any dominant flouting maxim executed by the characters.

Second, this research shows that there are 9 strategies to flout the maxims found in the sitcom. They are Overstatement/Giving too Much Information, Tautology, Understatement/Giving too Little Information, Rhetorical Question, Banter, Metaphor, Sarcasm, Being Irrelevant and Being Obscure/Being Ambiguous. The most used strategy executed by the characters in the sitcom is Being Irrelevant strategy which belongs to the strategy to flout maxims of Relation.

Finally, in terms of the role of flouting maxims in creating verbal humors, the last finding indicates that all of the data containing the types of flouting maxims and the strategies of flouting maxims correspond to Lyttle’s Integrating Humor Theories. There are 18 data which suit the Incongruity Theory, 9 data which suit the Superiority Theory and 3 data which suit the Relief/Release Theory. Therefore, it is very clear that all of the types of flouting maxims and the strategies to flout the maxims are appropriate with the Integrating Humor Theories because they fulfill the requirements of the Integrating Humor Theories in order to create verbal humors in the sitcom.

Keywords: *Pragmatics, Flouting Maxims, Humor, Friends*